



## DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

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**For Immediate Release**  
Jan. 25, 2011

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### **DEQ seeks nominations for 2011 Gulf Guardian Awards by March 15**

BATON ROUGE - The Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality is seeking entries for the Gulf Guardian Awards Program. As a member of the Gulf of Mexico Program and Gulf of Mexico Alliance, DEQ is encouraging Louisiana residents to nominate citizens, companies and organizations that are taking positive steps to keep the Gulf of Mexico and associated coastal water habitats healthy, beautiful and productive.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Gulf of Mexico Program partnership created the Gulf Guardian Award in 2000. The award was developed as a way to honor individuals, businesses and groups who are striving to make an environmental difference in the Gulf of Mexico. For 2011, first, second and third place awards are given in seven categories: Business and Industry, Bi-National Partnership Efforts, Civic/Nonprofit, Youth Environmental Education, Partnerships, Individual and Environmental Justice/Cultural Diversity

The Gulf of Mexico Program partnership is underwritten by the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency and is a non-regulatory, inclusive consortium of state and federal government agencies and representatives of the business and agricultural community, fishing industry, scientists, and community leaders from all across the five Gulf States and Mexico.

Entry forms for the 2011 Gulf Guardian Award are available online at [www.epa.gov/gmpo](http://www.epa.gov/gmpo), in both English and Spanish. The deadline for nominations is March 15. Please complete the form and email it to [gulf.guardian@epa.gov](mailto:gulf.guardian@epa.gov). For assistance with the application process or for more information call Dugan Sabins with DEQ at 225-219-3188.

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